



BOROUGH OF FAVERSHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR
1951

COLONEL W. H. CRICHTON, C.I.E., I.M.S., (Ret).

M.B., Ch.B., (Edin.), D.P.H. (Lond.)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FRANK HAUXWELL

M.B., Ch.B., (Glas.) D.P.H. (Camb.)

ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

WYARD'S PRINTING WORKS LTD.,
FAVERSHAM & HYTHE

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THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF FAVERSHAM

THE MAYOR :

*Councillor Frederick Gregory Johnson

THE DEPUTY MAYOR :

*Councillor Harry Knowles

ALDERMEN :

*J. H. Johnson

*Phil Johnson, O.B.E.

*J. B. Neame

*J. W. Videan

COUNCILLORS :

*A. H. Carter

*C. E. Ely

*P. D. Gausden

*Miss M. F. E. Graham

C. G. Hine

*A. W. Hulkes

J. A. E. Jones

F. Pearson

G. P. Rudgard

T. Williams

(*Denotes members of Health Committee)

TOWN CLERK :

S. Wilson

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the Borough and Port of Faversham

Colonel W. H. Crichton, C.I.E., I.M.S., (Ret.)

M.B., Ch.B., (Edin) D.P.H., (London)

(Granted leave of absence from September, 1950)

ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Frank Hauxwell, M.B., Ch.B., (Glas.) D.P.H., (Camb.)

(from January, 1951)

SANITARY INSPECTOR

to the Borough and Port (Eastern Section) of Faversham

Mr. A. J. Hurn, C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

SANITARY INSPECTOR

Port of Faversham (Western Section)

Mr. A. Leslie; M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.

(Chief Sanitary Inspector Sittingbourne and Milton U.D.C.)

CLERK (PART TIME)

Mrs. V. M. Gibbons

Municipal Offices,
Faversham.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Faversham during the year 1951.

According to the Census taken on the night of 8—9th April, 1951 the resident population at that time was 12,294. This shows a decrease of 466 (3.7%) from the count at the Census of 1931. The Registrar General's estimate of population for mid-year 1951 was however 12,290 which is 4 less than the actual count at the time of the Census in April and is a decrease of 280 from his mid-year estimate for the previous year.

The crude Birth Rate for the year was slightly lower than in the previous year being 14.2 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with 14.9 per 1,000 in 1950. The corrected birth rate for 1951 is however slightly higher than that for England and Wales being 16.3 compared with 15.5 per 1,000 for England and Wales as a whole.

The crude Death Rate for the year at 12.2 per 1,000 of the population is the lowest over the past 12 years and corrected to 9.5 per 1,000 for age and sex distribution compares very favourably with that for England and Wales as a whole namely 12.5 per 1,000.

The Infant Mortality Rate (28.5 per 1,000 live births) shows a very welcome reduction from the high rate of the previous year (42.5 per 1,000 live births) and is slightly less than that for England and Wales as a whole (29.6). This saving on infant life is a very valuable contribution.

Regarding Infectious Disease there were fewer cases in 1951 than in the previous year mainly due to a reduction in the number of cases of measles which had been present in epidemic form in 1950. The incidence of Whooping Cough was however the heaviest that has occurred during the past 12 years. There were remarkably few cases of Scarlet Fever during the year and 1951 makes the fifth successive year during which no cases of Diphtheria have occurred.

Though the total number of cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year (9) was the same in 1951 as in the previous year there was an increase both in notifications and in deaths from the Pulmonary form of the disease. Taken over a series of years however it would seem that there is a small but appreciable decrease both in the number of new cases occurring and in the death rate from this disease.

From statistics supplied from the County Medical Officer it would appear that the health of school children in the Borough is good. The number of children found at periodic inspections to require treatment fell from 9.2% in 1950 to 6.8% in 1951 and there was an appreciable increase in the percentage classified according to their general condition as "good" and a decrease in those classified as "poor."

Housing is still one of the major problems of the area. Not only are houses required for rehousing on social ground (i.e. families with no homes of their own or living under overcrowded conditions) but houses are also required to replace many of the old and dilapidated properties in the town. It is estimated that there are about 150 houses in the Borough which should be condemned as unfit for human habitation owing to their disrepair and sanitary defects and it is suggested that a programme for dealing with such properties should be adopted at an early date.

Generally speaking food shops and food preparing premises maintain a high standard of cleanliness but the unsatisfactory conditions at the Slaughterhouse continue and constitute serious interference with the efficient inspection of meat supplies.

In carrying on the work of the Department I am greatly indebted to the ever willing and able assistance of Mr. Hurn, the Council's Sanitary Inspector, and I am deeply grateful to my colleague Officers of the Council for their ever ready co-operation and advice.

To members of the Council I would give sincere thanks for their encouragement and kindly consideration.

I have the honour to be Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK HAUXWELL.

SECTION I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Climatology

The temperature of the year as a whole was very similar to 1950 but a substantial increase in the total rainfall is shown from the readings taken at the Borough Sewage Works (32.28 inches in 1951, 25.84 inches in 1950). No less than 9 months of 1951 received greater rainfall than the corresponding months of the previous year, although January, February and March accounted for 5.08 inches of the total 6.44 inches increase.

The Maximum and Minimum temperatures together with the rainfall recorded each month is shown in Appendix A.

Area

3070 acres. No change.

Population

The estimated mid-year population for 1951 as given by the Registrar General was 12,290, a decrease of 280 from the estimate for the preceding year and 4 less than the actual count of resident population as shown by the Census taken in April 1951.

A comparison of the Census figures for 1951 with those of the Census of 1931 is shown in the following statement:—

	Males	Females	Total Persons
Census 1931	6201	6559	12,760
Census 1951	5770	6524	12,294
Censal Increase or Decrease	—431	—35	—466
% of 1931 Census	—6.9	—0.5	—3.7

Number of Inhabited Houses

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1951 was 4,208 as compared with 4,121 at the end of 1950, an increase of 87. Of these 80 were Council Houses, 8 were privately constructed and 2 were Police Houses. Three houses were demolished during the year.

Rateable Value

£79,771 as compared with £75,758 in the preceding year.

Sum Represented by the Penny Rate

£306 7s. 2.88d., an increase of £11 5s. 11d. on the figure for 1950.

SECTION II.

VITAL STATISTICS

The crude Birth and Death rates are based on local population. Corrected rates are arrived at by multiplying the local rate by what are known as comparability factors supplied by the Registrar General and this has the effect of adjusting the local rates to rates which would have occurred had the age and sex distribution of the local population been the same as that of England and Wales as a whole. This enables a truer comparison to be made not only with the rates for England and Wales but with other areas where the crude rate has been similarly adjusted. The effect of this is that though the crude rates in a static or semi-static population are useful indices for showing increases or decreases in Birth and Death rates over a series of years, the corrected rates are those to be taken for comparison either with England and Wales as a whole, or with other areas similarly adjusted.

Births

The number of Births in 1951 (175) was 13 less than in the previous year and showed a continuation of the decrease in births from the numbers born during the later war and post war years. The number born in 1951 is less than half that for the year 1946 when there were 389 births.

	Males	Females	Total
(i) Live Births—Legitimate	81 (112)	88 (72)	169 (184)
Illegitimate	2 (1)	4 (3)	6 (4)
	<hr/> 83 (113)	<hr/> 92 (75)	<hr/> 175 (188)

- (ii) Still Births—The number of still births in 1951 was 4 being the same as in 1950. This represents 2.2% of all live and still births. All were legitimate.
- (iii) Illegitimate Births—These number at 6 in 1951 an increase of 2 over the previous year. The percentage of illegitimate births to total births was 3.4 The figure for 1950 was 2.1
- (iv) Birth Rate—The crude birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population fell from 14.9 in 1950 to 14.2 in 1951. This decrease again continues a decrease of the high rates of the immediate post war years and appears to follow a national trend. The rate for 1951 is the lowest recorded since 1940.

The corrected birth rate for 1951 is however slightly higher than that for England and Wales—16.3 compared with 15.5 per 1,000 for England and Wales as a whole.

- (v) Table 1 shows the number of births and the birth rates since 1940, and the number of illegitimate births each year during the same period.

Deaths

(a) The number of deaths from all causes during the year was 150 being 7 less than in the previous year. Of these 75 were male and 75 female.

(b) The crude death rate for the year was 12.2 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 12.4 in the preceding year. This is the lowest rate over the past 12 years. The corrected death rate of 9.5 per thousand compares very favourably with that for England and Wales—namely 12.5.

(c) Table I shows the number of deaths and the death rates since 1940 and Table II shows the causes of death during 1951 classified by the Registrar General under 36 headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death.

TABLE I
Births, Deaths and Infant Mortality—1940—1951

Year	Births			Deaths		Infant Mortality	
	Illegitimate Births	Total Live Births	Crude Birth Rate	No. of Deaths	Crude Death Rate	Total Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rate
1940	5	139	11.6	186	15.6	8	57.6
1941	16	163	14.3	165	14.5	4	24.5
1942	8	191	17.1	179	16.0	11	57.5
1943	14	209	18.1	176	15.9	6	29.0
1944	16	255	23.5	154	14.2	8	31.3
1945	18	282	25.0	174	15.4	9	31.9
1946	3	389	32.5	160	13.4	11	28.3
1947	17	254	20.8	171	14.0	7	27.1
1948	16	225	18.5	166	13.6	8	35.5
1949	9	218	17.6	184	14.9	4	18.3
1950	4	188	14.9	157	12.4	8	42.5
1951	6	175	14.2	150	12.2	5	28.5

TABLE II

Classification of Causes	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	3 (2)	2 (—)	5 (2)
2. Tuberculosis, other	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
3. Syphilitic disease	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
4. Diphtheria	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
5. Whooping cough	1 (—)	— (—)	1 (—)
6. Meningococcal infections	— (1)	— (—)	— (1)
7. Acute poliomyelitis	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
8. Measles	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	— (—)	1 (—)	1 (—)
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1 (3)	1 (1)	2 (4)
11. „ „ lung, bronchus	3 (3)	— (—)	3 (3)
12. „ „ breast	— (—)	1 (3)	1 (3)
13. „ „ uterus	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5 (7)	9 (9)	14 (16)
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
16. Diabetes	1 (—)	— (—)	1 (—)
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	15 (9)	14 (14)	29 (23)
18. Coronary disease, angina	14 (9)	8 (6)	22 (15)
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1 (1)	1 (2)	2 (3)
20. Other heart disease	12 (12)	22 (28)	34 (40)
21. Other circulatory disease	3 (4)	— (2)	3 (6)
22. Influenza	2 (2)	3 (—)	5 (2)
23. Pneumonia	1 (1)	6 (2)	7 (3)
24. Bronchitis	3 (3)	2 (2)	5 (5)
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1 (—)	— (—)	1 (—)
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2 (1)	— (—)	2 (1)
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2 (—)	— (—)	2 (—)
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	— (2)	— (2)	— (4)
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	— (1)	— (—)	— (1)
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
31. Congenital malformations	— (3)	— (1)	— (4)
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5 (9)	3 (7)	8 (16)
33. Motor vehicle accidents	— (—)	— (1)	— (1)
34. All other accidents	— (1)	1 (2)	1 (3)
35. Suicide	— (—)	1 (—)	1 (—)
36. Homicide and operations of war	— (1)	— (—)	— (1)
All causes	75 (75)	75 (82)	150 (157)

(Figures in brackets refer to the preceding year.)

From the Causes of Death given in Table II it will be seen that with the exception of respiratory diseases almost all the various diseases claimed less deaths than in the previous year.

Influenza and respiratory diseases caused 8 more deaths than in 1950 probably due to the cold wet weather at the beginning of the year. There was a small but welcome reduction in deaths due to malignant diseases—20 in 1951 as compared with 26 in 1950. These diseases still remain however the greatest single cause of death being 13.3% of all deaths occurring.

A total of 90 deaths (60% of all deaths) were attributed to disease of the heart or Circulatory System. This is not surprising

considering the increasing proportion of older people in the population and the fact that in many cases these deaths represent the final phase of old standing disease. The number of deaths each year and the death rates since 1940 are shown in Table I.

Infant Mortality

The number of deaths of infants under one year old was 5 in 1951 being 3 less than in the previous year. This gives an Infant Mortality Rate of 28.5 per 1,000 live births which is only slightly less than that for England and Wales as a whole—namely 29.6.

The number of infant deaths each year and the infant mortality rate since 1940 is shown in Table I.

Particulars in regard to the deaths that occurred in 1951 were as follows:—

Causes of Death	Sex	Age at Death	Place of Birth	Place of Death
Pneumonia	F	7 months	Nursing Home	Home
Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions	M	8 hours	Home	Hospital
Birth Injury and Con- genital Malformations	M	30 minutes	Home	Home
Pneumonia	F	2 months	Home	Home
Congenital Malform- ations and Birth In- jury	F	30 minutes	Nursing Home	Nursing Home

From the above statement it will be noticed that 3 of the 5 deaths that occurred were of infants less than twenty-four hours old and that in all of these the cause of death is given as Congenital malformation or birth injury. The reason for this is hard to explain. It would appear that though maternity and child welfare services have done much in recent years to reduce the death rate in older children there is still much to be done in reducing these neo-natal deaths.

It is interesting to note that none of the infants who died in 1951 were illegitimate children

SECTION III.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

There were fewer cases of Infectious Disease in 1951 than in the previous year—396 cases in 1951, 477 in 1950. This was mainly due to a reduction in the number of cases of measles which had been present in epidemic form during the previous year. There were also remarkably few cases of Scarlet Fever. The incidence of Whooping Cough was however the heaviest that

has occurred during the past 12 years. Most of the cases occurred during the first quarter of the year—97 in January, 83 in February and 43 in March. Thereafter the epidemic quickly abated and during the last six months of the year only 4 cases were notified. That one death occurred from this disease is however a warning that this disease must not be treated lightly.

One case of Diphtheria was notified during the year but further investigation proved it to be not Diphtheria so that 1951 makes the fifth successive year during which the area has been free from this disease.

The case of Food Poisoning notified was in a girl aged 18 admitted to hospital with vomiting and diarrhoea. Food poisoning was not suspected until nine days later when *Salmonella* organisms were found in the faeces. There was no other similar illness in her family and it was impossible to trace the illness to any particular food.

The total number of Infectious Diseases occurring and the number admitted to hospital and the total deaths from each disease as shown in the Registrar General's classification of deaths are shown in Table III and the age distribution of cases occurring are shown in Table IV.

TABLE III

Disease	No. of Cases	Admission to Hospital or Sanatorium	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	3 (34)	1	—
Whooping Cough	256 (49)	3	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	— (1)	—	—
Measles	106 (373)	—	—
Pneumonia	14 (8)	—	7
Dysentery	— (—)	—	—
Erysipelas	4 (2)	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	— (1)	—	—
Food Poisoning	1 (—)	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	3 (—)	2	—
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	8 (4)	3	5
Non-Pulmonary	1 (5)	—	—
Totals	396 (477)	10	13

TABLE IV
Age Group Distribution—Infectious Disease

	—1	—5	—15	—20	—30	—40	—50	—60	Over 60	Totals
Scarlet Fever	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Whooping Cough	11	153	89	—	2	—	—	1	—	256
Measles	6	79	20	—	1	—	—	—	—	106
Pneumonia	1	6	2	—	1	—	—	4	—	14
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3
Tuberculosis										
Pulmonary	—	—	1	1	3	2	1	—	1	9
Non-Pulmonary	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

Table V shows the incidence of Infectious Disease in the Borough since 1940. This table shows the practically complete disappearance in recent years of that once dreaded disease Diphtheria and of Ophthalmia Neonatorum which left so many babies blind or with impaired vision. Diphtheria has been brought under control by Immunisation and improved technique at birth together with a fall in Venereal infections has done much to eradicate Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Against these successes in preventive medicine, Measles and Whooping Cough still persist in considerable prevalence, luckily however in recent years with a much reduced mortality.

TABLE V
Incidence of Infectious Diseases during the undermentioned years.

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	6	10	15	21	4	3	3	6	6	14	34	3
Diphtheria	1	10	1	5	3	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	2	314	3	21	117	126	136	11	206	13	373	106
Whooping Cough	2	85	43	8	24	42	31	92	46	8	49	256
Erysipelas	12	7	2	3	1	—	2	—	3	1	2	4
Pneumonia	5	6	7	4	1	—	2	7	5	10	8	14
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—	1	3	2	—	2	2	—	—	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	2	—	2	—	1	—	3	—	1	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	4	2	4	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	45	—	—	1

Tuberculosis

Eight new cases of Pulmonary and one case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year. The corresponding figures for 1950 were four Pulmonary and five Non-Pulmonary cases.

Table VI shows the number of cases notified and the deaths each year since 1940. Though taken over a comparatively short period the Table suggests that even taking into account the increased incidence of the disease during the war and some of the post war years there would appear to be a small but appreciable decrease both in the number of new cases occurring and in the resulting death rate. This is especially noticeable in regard to Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

TABLE VI
Tuberculosis—Notifications and Deaths—1940—1951

Year	No. of Primary Notifications received		Deaths		Death Rate per 10,000 of population	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1940	16	1	7	3	5.8	2.5
1941	18	3	9	1	7.9	0.8
1942	10	5	5	1	4.4	0.8
1943	10	6	5	3	4.5	2.7
1944	4	13	7	2	6.4	1.8
1945	3	1	5	—	4.4	0.0
1946	8	2	6	—	5.0	0.0
1947	10	5	3	—	2.4	0.0
1948	23	8	6	1	4.9	0.8
1949	8	8	5	1	4.1	0.8
1950	4	5	2	—	1.5	0.0
1951	8	1	5	—	4.0	0.0

The number and types of cases in the area and on the Tuberculosis Register are shown in Table VII.

TABLE VII
Summary of Tuberculosis Register.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Totals
	M	F	M	F	
On Tuberculosis Register					
1/1/51	27 (30)	23 (23)	19 (15)	13 (14)	82 (82)
Transferred to Borough	1 (1)	1 (—)	1 (2)	1 (—)	4 (3)
Notified in Borough	4 (3)	4 (1)	— (3)	1 (2)	9 (9)
Returned to Borough	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)
	33 (34)	28 (24)	20 (20)	15 (16)	96 (94)
Cancelled Non-Tuberculous	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)
Deaths	2 (1)	2 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	4 (1)
Removed from Borough	— (3)	2 (1)	— (1)	— (1)	2 (6)
Recovered	1 (2)	1 (—)	— (—)	2 (2)	4 (4)
	3 (7)	5 (1)	— (1)	2 (3)	10 (12)
Balance remaining on Register 31/12/51	30 (27)	23 (23)	20 (19)	13 (13)	86 (82)

During the year the Mass Radiography Unit carried out a survey of staff and senior scholars at three of the Secondary Schools in the area. At that survey 191 male and 187 female volunteers were examined and the only abnormality discovered was one case of inactive Tuberculosis. Though the numbers are small it is very satisfactory to note that no active case of Tuberculosis was found.

Immunisation and Vaccination

The County Medical Officer reports that during 1951, 96 children under five years of age and 25 children between the ages of five and fifteen years were immunised against Diphtheria. A further 190 children received re-inforcing inoculations.

The County Medical Officer also reported that during the same period 115 primary vaccinations (39 of children under one year of age) and 71 re-vaccinations against Smallpox were carried out. The corresponding figures for 1950 were 124 primary vaccinations and 28 re-vaccinations.

SECTION IV

General Provision of Health Services

During the year the duties of the Faversham Health Department continued to be purely in regard to general environmental hygiene and the supervision of food supplies, water, housing, infectious diseases etc. Personal health services such as care of mothers and young children, health visiting, home nursing, im-

munisation and vaccination etc. are administered by the County Council and the School Health Service by the County Education Committee. Furthermore hospitals are administered by the Regional Hospital Board and the general practitioner service by the Executive Council. One cannot help but wonder whether this splitting up of responsibilities in regard to the health of the individual is quite in accordance with the spirit under which a National Health Service was conceived. Prevention is after all better than cure and the present lack of liaison between the various authorities concerned cannot be in the best interest of the individual.

School Health Service

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following information on the work of the School Health Service in the Borough.

1. Medical Inspection :—

a. Number of Children inspected (periodic inspections)	896 (867)
b. Number found requiring treatment	61 (80)
c. Percentage requiring treatment	6.8% (9.2%)
d. Frequency of main defects found	
Eyes	52.4% (36.2%)
Ear, Nose and Throat	8.2% (15.0%)
Orthopaedic	13.1% (27.5%)
Heart and Circulation	3.2% (1.0%)
Lungs	3.2% (2.3%)
Psychological	4.9% (3.7%)
Developmental	1.6% (3.7%)

2. Classification of General Conditions of Pupils :—

Age Groups	Number of Children	" A " (Good)		" B " (Fair)		" C " (Poor)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	172	33	19.2 (20.1)	106	61.6 (52.3)	33	19.2 (27.6)
Second Age Group	155	48	31.0 (35.9)	97	62.6 (56.5)	10	6.4 (7.6)
Third Age Group	275	139	50.5 (33.7)	127	46.2 (57.3)	9	3.3 (9.0)
Other periodic Inspections	294	89	30.3 (18.0)	184	62.6 (73.0)	21	7.1 (9.0)
Totals	896	309	34.5 (28.2)	514	57.4 (59.5)	73	8.1 (12.3)

3. Dental Inspection and Treatment :—

a. Number of children inspected	1,212 (1,002)
b. Number found to require treatment	397 (326)
c. Percentage requiring treatment	32.8% (32.5%)

4. Infestation with vermin :—

a. Total number of examinations in the school	4,940 (4,950)
b. Number of individual children found to be infested	32 (39)
c. Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2) Education Act 1944)	7 (16)

5. Comment :—

From these figures it can be said that generally speaking the health of the school child is good. There was during 1951 a reduction in the number of children found at periodic inspections to be in need of treatment (from 9.8% in 1950 to 6.8% in 1951.) The classification of children according to their general condition (commonly called Nutritional Standard) also shows reasonably good standards and the figures for 1951 show improvements on those of the previous year in that the number classified as good increased from 28.2% in 1950 to 34.5% in 1951 and those classified as poor fell from 12.3% in 1950 to 8.1% in 1951.

Of the main defects found at Medical Inspection eye defects still take a very high place being 52.4% of all defects found. This is a very high percentage for these defects.

SECTION V

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

I. General Sanitary Circumstances.

(a) Water Supply

The public supply is provided by the Faversham Water Company from its two pumping stations at Ospringe and Copton.

The water is derived from the chalk and is adequate in quantity and of excellent quality. Approximately 99 per cent of the houses in the Borough are provided with a main supply. Six samples were taken during the year and submitted to the County Council Laboratory for examination All were satisfactory.

(b) Drainage and Sewerage

Apart from work in connection with new housing and the new drainage at the Ospringe Schools there were no additions or improvements during the year to the existing Sewerage System.

(c) School Sanitation

This has been kept in a satisfactory condition during the year. A great improvement was effected at Ospringe Schools where the existing system of pail closets was abolished and a new drainage system installed and connected to the sewer.

(d) Public Conveniences

There is one public convenience for males in Cross Lanes and one for females in Back Lane, and accommodation for both sexes at the Recreation Ground. There are also four public urinals in different parts of the town. The need for more accommodation for females is still under consideration.

(e) Hop-Pickers Camps

There are two encampments for hop-pickers situated at Queen Court, Ospringe and at Westwood Court. These accommodate during the season between 600 and 700 mostly in corrugated iron huts. There are also on both sites a few ex Army huts. Both camps are supplied with mains water, but there is no drainage the sanitary conveniences being of the trench type.

Both camps were visited regularly during occupation and were found to be maintained in a reasonably good sanitary condition.

2. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk

There are five registered dairy premises in the Borough and five persons are registered as Distributors. There are no registered distributors other than those working from locally registered premises.

Four distributors are licensed to retail Pasteurised Milk and four retail Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Two firms hold special licences from the County Council under the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised Milk) Orders for the production of Pasteurised Milk.

26 inspections were made of dairies during the year.

(b) Meat Inspection

All home killed meat is slaughtered at the Government Slaughterhouse in Flood Lane

As previously reported that Slaughterhouse is much too small

and insufficiently equipped for the amount of slaughtering carried on. Though a scheme of improvement had been drawn up by the Ministry of Food in 1950 no effective steps were taken during 1951 to carry out the work.

In the interests of efficient inspection of the meat and the safety of meat supplies the Ministry should decide at an early date either to improve the premises or close them down.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered for diseased conditions. A total of 6 tons 1 qr. 22 lbs. was condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
No. killed	1,038	186	270	1,884	309	3,687
No. inspected	1,038	186	270	1,884	309	3,687
All diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	3	Nil	10	4	18
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	80	45	1	83	30	239
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	7.8%	25.8%	.3%	4.9%	11%	
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	4	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	35	43	Nil	Nil	Nil	78
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	3.7%	25.2%	Nil	Nil	Nil	

Of the total number of 3,687 animals slaughtered 343 or 9.3% were found to be affected with disease in one form or another. 86 or 2.3% were affected with tuberculosis.

576 visits for inspections were made at the Slaughterhouse during the year.

(c) Other Foods

Other items of foodstuff condemned amounted to five and a quarter tons and were as follows:—

73½	Stones Fish
22,277	Eggs
335	Tins of Meat Products
1,044	lbs. Fresh Meat
1,179	tins, packets and jars, assorted Groceries
1,896	tins, Milk
2,708	tins, Fruit and Vegetables
134	tins, Fish
68½	lbs. Cheese
36	tinned Foreign Hams (Approx 5 cwts.)
222	lbs. Biscuits
140	lbs. Semolina
15	lbs. Flour
58	lbs. Brawn
6½	lbs. Butter
4	lbs. Sweets

In all cases these articles were submitted to the Sanitary Department by the traders themselves.

(d) Fish Frying Establishments

Seven premises are in use for this purpose. All have been kept in a satisfactory condition during the year.

(e) Ice Cream

A further nine premises were registered during the year for the sale of Ice-cream making a total of 43 such premises registered in the Borough.

No Ice-cream is manufactured in the Borough but is sold pre-packed as received from the manufacturers.

(f) Food & Drugs Act 1938

The Weights and Measures Department of the County Council have kindly supplied the following details of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers within the Borough of Faversham during the year ending 31st December, 1951.

Article	No.	Article	No.
Apple Sauce	1	Pale Ale	1
Bing	1	Pork Luncheon Meat	1
Cake Mixture	1	Pork Sausages	1
Cold and Influenza Mixture	1	Prepared Peas	1
Cooking Fat	1	Processed Peas	1
Dried Milk Powder	1	Rum	1
Ear Drops	1	Semolina	1
Evaporated Milk	1	Spray Skim Milk Powder	1
"Gonde" Process Cheese	1	Sugared Almonds	1

Article	No.	Article	No.
Ice-cream	2	Sweet Scone Mixture	1
Ice-cream Powder	1	Syrup of Figs	1
Jam	1	Whisky	2
Jelly Crystals	1	White Sauce	1
Juniper Backache Pills	1	Zinc and Castor Oil	
Lime Powder	1	Ointment	1
Liquid Paraffin	1	Zinc and Castor Oil	
Milk	34	B.P. Cream	1
Olive Oil	1		
			<hr/> 69 <hr/>

SUMMARY

Milks	34
Drugs	7
Spirits	3
Other samples	25
	<hr/> 69 <hr/>

All the above samples were genuine with the exception of the following:—

Sample of	Analysis	Action taken
Cold and Influenza Mixture	Inferior. Acid Hydrobrom dil 2.8% instead of 0.25%.	Makers cautioned by Chief Inspector.
Milk	Adulterated. Contained 15.4% added water.	This was an informal sample on which proceedings could not be taken. A written caution was issued.
Zinc and Castor Oil Ointment	Deficient in zinc oxide.	} Makers cautioned by Chief Inspector.
do.	do.	

3. Rodent Control

Arrangements for this work are similar to those reported last year. A part-time operator from the Highway Staff is employed and this arrangement has worked satisfactorily during the year

124 inspections of properties were made during the year for the purpose of detecting rodents and 90 premises were treated with good results. Treatments were also carried out at the Council's Sewers and the refuse tip at Preston.

4. Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act 1951

The above Act which deals with the cleanliness of filling materials used in the manufacture of upholstery, stuffing or lining of bedding, toys, etc., came into force on 1st November, 1951. The Act requires the registration of premises where such articles are made and sets out certain standards of cleanliness of the filling materials used. There are however no premises in the Borough to which the Act applies.

5. A summary showing the number of inspections and visits (other than in relation to housing) is given in Appendix B.

SECTION VI HOUSING

1. The following is a summary of action taken under the Housing and Public Health Acts during 1951.

(a) Inspection of Dwelling-houses for housing defects	90
(b) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
(c) Number of housing defects found	91
(d) Number of defects remedied without services of formal notices	72
(e) (i) Number of Statutory Notices served under Public Health Act	8
(ii) Number of Statutory Notices complied with	8
(f) (i) Number of new houses erected by Local Authority	80
(ii) Number of new houses erected by private enterprise	8
(iii) Police houses erected	2

2. The following statement shows the various types of Nuisances and Housing Defects dealt with —

	Defects	Visits & revisits
Choked drains	11	27
Defective drains	6	8
Defective W.C. pans and cisterns	9	14
Leaking and defective roofs	18	22
Dampness	10	14
Defective walls	3	4
Defective floors	3	6
Defective ceilings	9	13
Defective stoves and coppers	3	6
Defective doors and windows	7	16
Defective sinks	2	3
Defective eaves gutters	6	10
Defective yard paving	4	6
	<hr/> 91	<hr/> 149

3. Repair and Maintenance of houses

The position in regard to maintenance of existing dwelling-houses is becoming increasingly serious. The high cost of repairs compared with the income from rents make it very difficult to get repairs and improvements carried out and it would seem that unless something is done by alteration of the Rent Restrictions Acts or other means a most serious problem is being created. The Health Department can do little more in the present circumstances than ensure that houses are maintained in a reasonable weatherproof condition and that general sanitary conditions are maintained.

4. Unfit houses

Apart from houses which can and should be repaired there are a considerable number of houses in the area which because of their disrepair and sanitary defects or the narrowness and bad arrangement of the streets are unfit for human habitation and ought to be demolished. Without a complete survey of the district it is impossible to assess accurately the number of houses in Faversham which would come under this category but it is considered that there are approximately 150 which should be condemned.

It is suggested that the time has now come for a definite programme spread over say five years for their elimination.

During the year three houses (11a North Lane, 96 and 97 Abbey Street) were demolished as the result of Demolition Orders made in the previous year, under Section 11 of the Housing Act 1936, and Demolition Orders in respect of a further three houses (19, 20, 21 Wallers Row) were made by the Council in 1951.

5. Provision of houses

The following statement shows the number of houses built each year since the end of the war :—

Year	Council Houses		Police Houses	Private Enterprise	Total
	Temporary	Permanent			
1946	50	—	—	1	51
1947	—	18	—	5	23
1948	—	53	—	10	63
1949	—	71	5	10	86
1950	—	61	—	11	72
1951	—	80	2	8	90
Total	50	283	7	45	385

6. Common Lodging Houses

There is one Common Lodging house in the Borough with accommodation for 10 males. These premises have been inspected regularly during the year and have been found in a satisfactory condition.

SECTION VII

Factory Administration

1. (i) Number of Factories on Register

(a) Factories with mechanical power	77
(b) Factories without mechanical power	32
Total	109

(ii) Number of Inspections

(a) Factories with mechanical power	45
(b) Factories without mechanical power	14
Total	59

2. Cases in which defects were found

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	—	—
Total	2	2	—	—

SECTION VIII

Faversham Port Health Authority

1. Area

There has been no alteration in the area of the Port which for sanitary administration is divided into two sections (a) The Eastern Section (Faversham Creek) and (b) The Western Section (Milton Creek).

2. Trade

The traffic is almost entirely coastwise with a very small proportion from continental ports. At Faversham Creek the chief imports are petrol, crude oil, gas coal, and fertilisers from other coastal ports and some grain and timber from Baltic Ports. At Milton Creek the chief imports are china clay and coal—there were no imports from continental ports during the year. Bricks and cement are exported from Milton Creek.

3. Traffic

The number and type of ships arriving at the Port during the year was as follows:—

	Sailing Vessels	Motor Vessels and Tankers	Total	Registered Tonnage
(a) Eastern Section (Faversham Creek)				
i. Coastwise	110	325	435	17,405
ii. Foreign Ports	—	10	10	3,750
(b) Western Section (Milton Creek)				
i. Coastwise	530	54	584	57,671
ii. Foreign Ports	—	—	—	—
Total	640	389	1,029	78,826

4. Inspections

Nine routine inspections were carried out by the Port Sanitary Inspector at the Eastern Section of the Port and fourteen inspections by the Sanitary Inspector of the Western Section. At none of the inspections was it found necessary to deal with any nuisances or other defects.

5. Infectious Disease

No case of infectious disease was reported or discovered during the year.

6. Water Supply to Port

There is an ample supply of piped mains water obtainable by means of stand pipes on the various wharves.

7. Shellfish Layings

Included in the area are several shellfish gathering grounds. Under an Order dated 3rd August, 1920 the distribution for sale for human consumption of shellfish from certain layings is prohibited unless the shellfish have been relaid for fourteen days in water not subject to pollution from sewage. The layings referred to are:—

(a) Layings from shore to shore between 100 yards west of Elmley Ferry and the mouth of Milton Creek.

(b) The Public layings between the western boundary of the Faversham Port Health Authority's jurisdiction and Harty Ferry.

APPENDIX A

Readings Recorded at the Borough Sewage Works
(By courtesy of Mr. Colin Walton)

Month	Maximumo	Minimumo	Rainfall in ins.
January	51° (53°)	25° (18°)	2.83 (1.8)
February	56° (57°)	28° (26°)	5.77 (3.83)
March	59° (63°)	25° (24°)	2.61 (.5)
April	66° (65°)	30° (30°)	1.75 (1.93)
May	76° (79°)	39° (38°)	2.38 (1.88)
June	80° (86°)	40° (46°)	1.74 (1.46)
July	88° (86°)	46° (45°)	1.49 (2.61)
August	81° (85°)	46° (47°)	2.74 (2.69)
September	75° (78°)	38° (43°)	3.81 (1.86)
October	62° (67°)	30° (28°)	1.12 (.31)
November	58° (57°)	29° (28°)	3.63 (4.93)
December	53° (52°)	20° (20°)	2.41 (2.04)
Total			32.28 ins. (25.84)

APPENDIX B

Particulars of Sanitary Inspections and visits

Infectious Disease and disinfections	...	12
Dairies	...	37
Factories and Workshops	...	13
Butchers Shops	...	113
Grocers Shops	...	195
Fish Shops	...	135
Fish Frying Establishments	...	23
Food Preparing Premises	...	22
Bakehouses	...	11
Ice-Cream Shops	...	21
Fruit and Vegetable Shops	...	14
Verminous Premises	...	3
Rats and Mice	...	16
Slaughterhouse	...	576
Total		<u>1,191</u>